

**Remarks**

The above preliminary amendment is made to amend claims 1, 17, 18, 25, 26, 28, 29, and to cancel claims 10, 15, 16 and 27.

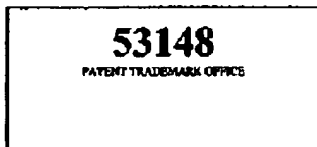
Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Douglas P.

Mueller (Reg. No. 30,300), at (612)455.3804.

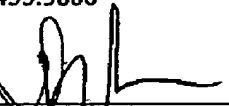
Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: October 7, 2005

By

  
Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30,300

DPM/nel